

16 February 2021

Mr. Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union
Locked Bag 3
Australia Square NSW 1215

Dear Gerard

This letter is to advise you that we are currently undertaking a review of the service model within our Goulburn Base Hospital Pathology Lab, Goulburn. The current model provides for an onsite pathology laboratory service from between the hours of 06:30am and 08:00pm Monday to Friday and 08:00am and 08:00pm Saturday and Sunday. This is supplemented by an out of hour's on-call service.

Through consultation with the Southern NSW Local Health District (LHD) and NSW Health Pathology it has been identified that there is a need to review our hours of service at Goulburn to meet the challenges surrounding an increase in the number of call-backs during the evening.

Through this consultation with the LHD and in order to meet our service obligations to Goulburn Base Hospital and the community it serves it has also been identified that there is a need for our staff to be onsite to undertake testing for evening presentations to the Goulburn emergency department and maintain testing turnaround times to ensure an adequate flow of patients through the Goulburn emergency department.

We will be meeting with our staff to discuss a proposal to extend our hours of operation at Goulburn from 06:30am to 11:00pm Monday to Friday with no change proposed to Saturday and Sunday hours of operation. We will meet with our staff tomorrow 17th February 2020 and will explore:

- NSW Health Pathology's proposal
- The data underpinning this proposal and whether this data is representative of the actual experiences of our impacted Staff Members (noting that pre-analytical staff will not be impacted by this proposal).
- Any concerns our Staff Members may have with NSW Health Pathology's proposal
- NSW Health Pathology's commitment to Southern NSW LHD and our patients.

I wish to bring this initial meeting with our Staff Members to your attention to enable you to be positioned well to respond to any questions should you members reach out to you post our discussion.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Should we look to move forward with our proposal after initially discussing with and seeking feedback from our Staff Members I will notify you at that time for consultation.

Kind regards,



Tarquin Pollock
HR Manager Rural & Regional
NSW Health Pathology